

**WEST POINT CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 9, 2024**

The City Council of the City of West Point, Kentucky, met in a regular session on Monday, December 9, 2024, at 7:00 PM at the West Point Independent School building, 203 N. 13th Street, West Point, Kentucky, with Mayor Richard A. Ciresi presiding as chair.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Ciresi called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Ciresi led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRAYER: Anette Baker led in prayer.

ROLL CALL:

PRESIDING OFFICER: Richard Ciresi, Mayor

PRESENT: Anette Baker
Amy Bickel
Kevin Duke
Hanna Duvall
Chris McVey
Jo Sabol

RECORDING CLERK: Ashley Gates

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES-NOVEMBER 11, 2024:

The November 11, 2024, minutes were presented for approval. Hanna Duvall made a motion to adopt the minutes as written and his motion was seconded by Anette Baker; Motion carried unanimously.

2. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING NOVEMBER 30TH, 2024:

Upon motion by Anette Baker, duly seconded by Amy Bickel, the financial report for November 2024 was accepted as presented. A roll call vote was taken; All members present voted "yes" and the motion was carried.

3. CITY ZONING CHANGE REQUEST:

Amy Bickel made a motion to approve the city's zoning change request and the motion was seconded by Chris McVey. The request is to change zoning from R1 to C1 for the entire length of the property along 31W owned by the City of West Point with the goal of promoting commercial development along 31W. This request extends from the property line adjoining 31W and then westward 250' 300' encompassing the entire width of the property. After an amendment was

made, changing the measure to 300 feet, a Roll call vote was taken with all members present voting “yes” and the motion carried.

4. FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 2024-04 AMENDING BUDGET:

Ordinance 2024-04 was read by Amy Bickel and presented for discussion. The ordinance would amend the annual budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024. A second reading will be held on the 13th day of January 2025 at the next regularly scheduled council meeting.

5. MAYOR’S REPORT:

1. Update. Just over 1 year ago we sold our Water/Sewer service to HCW, and they began operation of the system. Since then, HCW has spent \$285,336.00 on necessary repairs and improvements in our system. This includes all new water meters, IRTS, lids, the repairs at Salt River Boat Dock, rebuilding the 13th St lift station controls, a thorough cleaning of the sanitary sewers, etc. Improvements scheduled in the near future total and estimated \$1,035,044
2. The public hearing for the Bank Stabilization recommendation is Dec 12, 2025, from 5 to 7 PM, here in the school gym. The engineers will have maps and sample information for the three possible solutions to riverbank erosion. This will address the riverbank from the Salt River to 9th St. Public comment will be available until 12-31-24. Once complete we will begin the grant process for funding.
3. The auditor has promised a completed audit report by this Wednesday 12-11-24. However, we are currently on hold for payments from the state or any grants until this is filed with the Department of Local Government.
4. We have made an “Offer in Compromise” to permanently settle the city’s \$260,000+ IRS debt and have paid the recommended deposit. This offer was made on the recommendation of our tax advocate through Brett Guthrie’s office. They have 24 months to respond, but we expect a response much sooner.
5. We have received our invoice from Fish & Wildlife for the boat ramp, \$42,500 which was the original amount agreed, to be paid on December 16, 2024.
6. The concession agreement for the Salt River RV Park has been completed and executed. All Hardin Co. water services are available and operating on site. We have also arranged to have a Kayak rental kiosk, at no cost to the city, available over there in the spring.
7. The Dollar General store is doing their final testing on the site, with an anticipated closing date prior to the year end. We are still waiting for confirmation for the billboard to be removed.
8. Hardin County Animal Control will be offering a vaccination clinic here in the school on Friday January 24, 2025, from 10:00 to 2:00.
9. Do any of the returning council want to attend the 3-day KLC training in Lexington January 15-18th?
10. Would the council like me to arrange a swearing in ceremony. All present responded “Yes”.
11. I would like to thank Amy Bickel for the outstanding job of putting the parade festivities together, considering the frigid weather and the snow there was a very good turnout!
12. Meetings and events attended on behalf of the City this month.
 - a. Hardin Co Fiscal Court (2)
 - b. Hardin Co. Chamber Board Meeting.
 - c. Lincoln Trail Area Development District Board Meeting

- d. Donor appreciation Gala of Baptist Health Hardin
- e. Radcliff Small Business Alliance monthly meeting
- f. Ohio River way coalition monthly meeting
- g. Central Kentucky Community Foundation open house.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FT. DUFFIELD: Chuck McCreary reported that the only activity has been more talk of new walking trails.

PLANNING & ZONING: Bill Hartley reported that a representative for TowerCo was present at the hearing to address questions, but no formal input requests were submitted. Fort Knox airport operations expressed concerns about the tower's lighting and helicopter navigation.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS: Bill Hartley announced that a representative for Dollar General submitted a variance request to reduce the required rear yard setback from 25 feet to 20 feet. The requested adjustment pertains to the corner area of the property. The Board of Adjustments reviewed and approved the request.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Nothing to report.

MUSEUM REPORT: Roszelle Moore noted that the museum committee needs a couple more members to serve on its board.

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Nothing to report.

CODE ENFORCEMENT: Code Enforcement efforts have resumed. While they do not have the exact number of cases currently, they expect to have more information available in January.

7. COUNCIL CONCERNS:

AMY BICKEL: reported that the school board committee meetings will be changing from the last Tuesday of the month to the third Tuesday of the month. Amy encouraged anyone with ideas for community engagement or events they would like to see brought to West Point to reach out to her and share their ideas.

8. CITIZEN CONCERNS:

Citizen asked if there had been any updates on the hazard mitigation project for the riverbank. Mayor Ciresi encouraged everyone to come to the public hearing for the bank stabilization. The hearing is December 12th, 2024, from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

ROSZELLE MOORE: Noted that an article had appeared in the local newspaper regarding outdated sirens in Hardin County. The article encouraged residents to sign up for the county's alert system. West Point has a similar alert system that sends notifications directly to phones. These sirens were never designed to be the sole warning system.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the council, Mayor Ciresi called for a motion to adjourn. Kevin Duke motioned, with a second from Hanna Duvall. Motion passes unanimously, the time being 7:40 PM.

CITY OF WEST POINT



Richard A. Ciresi, Mayor

ATTEST:



Ashley Gates, City Clerk